

D2
15. (Amended Twice) An apparatus, comprising:
an electrically conductive baseplate;
a device connected to the baseplate; and
a cover including a one-piece plastic body and at least one electrically conductive lead,
wherein the body is connected to the baseplate such that the device is enclosed by the body, and
wherein the electrically conductive lead includes an exposed portion electrically connected to the
device via an electrically conductive bump.

REMARKS

This Amendment is a submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

In the Office Action, claims 1-22 were rejected. More specifically, claims 1-3, 5, 7-8, 10-11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,753,857 ("Choi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,353,257 ("Huang") and claims 4, 6, 9, 12-13 and 15-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Choi in view of Huang and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,097,318 ("Tanaka"). For the reasons set forth hereinbelow, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections associated with the pending claims (i.e., claims 1-22) be withdrawn.

Claims 1-13

Applicants have herein amended independent claim 1 to clarify that the cover includes a one-piece plastic body. Applicants submit that that amended claim 1 is nonobvious over Choi in view of Huang because the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. *See* MPEP § 2143 (stating that one of the elements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness under § 103(a) is that the prior art references, either alone or in combination, must teach or suggest every limitation of the claimed invention). More particularly, Applicants submit that the cited references fail to disclose, among other elements, “a cover including a one-piece plastic body and at least one electrically conductive lead, wherein the body is connected to the base such that the device is enclosed by the body, and wherein the electrically conductive lead includes an exposed portion electrically connected to the device.”

Applicants submit that Choi, referring to Figure 2 thereof, merely discloses a package chip 17 (referred to in the Office Action as the device) supported by a bottom cover 18 (referred to in the Office Action as the base) and enclosed by a **combination** of a body 10 (referred to in the Office Action as the plastic body) and a glass lid 16 attached to an upper surface of the body 10. In addition, Applicants also submit that Choi discloses a plate 13 (referred to in the Office Action as the electrically conductive lead) connected to the package chip 17 - not an outlead 12 connected to the package chip 17.

With respect to Huang, Applicants submit that Huang, referring to Figure 4 thereof, merely discloses a semiconductor chip 4 enclosed by a **combination** of an encapsulation body 3

and a lid 6, where the lid 6 can be a plastic lid. Thus, Applicants submit that even if one skilled in the art would have been motivated to replace the glass lid 16 disclosed by Choi with the plastic lid 6 disclosed by Huang, the package chip 17 disclosed by Choi would still be enclosed by a **combination** of the body and a plastic lid attached to an upper surface of the body - **not** by a one-piece plastic body as recited in independent claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is nonobvious over Choi and Huang, because the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest each and every element of amended claim 1. Applicants further submit that claims 2-13, which depend from claim 1, are also nonobvious over the cited references. *See* MPEP §2143.03 (stating that if an independent claim is nonobvious under §103(a), then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious). Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejections associated with these claims be withdrawn.

Claim 14

Applicants have herein amended independent claim 14 to clarify that the cover includes a one-piece plastic body. For reason similar to those set forth hereinabove, Applicants submit that claim 14 is non-obvious over the cited references and respectfully request that the § 103(a) rejection associated with claim 14 be withdrawn.

Claims 15-22

Applicants have herein amended independent claim 15 to clarify that the cover includes a one-piece plastic body. For reasons similar to those set forth hereinabove, Applicants submit that claim 15, and the claims which depend therefrom (i.e., claims 16-22), are non-obvious over the cited references and respectfully request that the rejections associated with these claims be withdrawn.

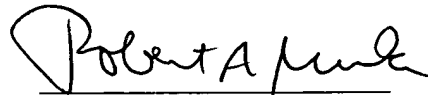
Marked-Up Version of Changes Made to the Claims

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this amendment. The first page of the marked-up version is captioned **“VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE.”**

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request a Notice Of Allowance for the pending claims in the present application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that the present application is in condition for disposition other than allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order that the Examiner's concerns may be expeditiously addressed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Muha", written over a horizontal line.

Robert A. Muha
Reg. No. 44,249

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART, LLP
Henry W. Oliver Building
535 Smithfield Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Telephone: (412) 355-8244
Facsimile: (412) 355-6501
E-mail: rmuha@kl.com

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

The following claims have been amended as indicated.

1. (Amended Twice) An apparatus, comprising:
a base;
a device connected to the base; and
a cover including a ~~one-piece~~ plastic body and at least one electrically conductive lead,
wherein the body is connected to the base such that the device is enclosed by the body, and
wherein the electrically conductive lead includes an exposed portion electrically connected to the device.

14. (Amended Twice) An apparatus, comprising:
a base;
a device connected to the base;
a cover including a ~~one-piece~~ plastic body and at least one electrically conductive lead,
wherein the body is connected to the base such that the device is enclosed by the body such that
an inner surface of the body of the cover and an upper surface of the device define an air gap
therebetween, and wherein the electrically conductive lead includes an exposed portion; and
an electrically conductive bump electrically connected between the device and the
exposed portion of the electrically conductive lead.

15. (Amended Twice) An apparatus, comprising:

- an electrically conductive baseplate;
- a device connected to the baseplate; and
- a cover including a ~~one-piece~~ plastic body and at least one electrically conductive lead,

wherein the body is connected to the baseplate such that the device is enclosed by the body, and

wherein the electrically conductive lead includes an exposed portion electrically connected to the device via an electrically conductive bump.